



## Horseneck Beach State Reservation Capital Improvements

June 2008

Dear Horseneck Beach Visitor,

Welcome to Horseneck Beach! Last year DCR announced that Horseneck Beach State Reservation would undergo a well-needed capital improvement project over a three year period, beginning in 2007 and ending in 2010. This exciting \$8.5M renovation project broke ground on July 13, 2007.

### Phase I – Day Use Area

The first phase includes two new bathhouses, replacement of the central plaza area, and an increase in the number of toilets at both ends of the beach. The new bathhouses with composting toilets will help protect our natural resources by reducing water consumption by at least 50 percent. The first phase also includes new boardwalks over the dunes and shade shelters. Work for Phase I is expected to be completed by June 2009.

### Phase II - Campground

The second phase of park improvements includes renovation and reconfiguration of the campground. For 40 years, families have enjoyed the unusual experience of camping in the dunes, but at a tremendous cost to the natural landscape. The sand dunes have suffered greatly and are slowly being washed away. To protect them for future generations, the campground improvements will include reconfiguring the 32 waterfront sites and extensive dune re-nourishment. Once reconfigured, campsites will no longer be located at the water's edge. While this may be disappointing to some, the reconfiguration allows us to continue to offer camping while properly preserving the dunes, plants and animal habitat at Horseneck Beach.

**2007 Season** – DCR distributed a visitor survey seeking feedback to aid in campground restoration planning.

**Spring 2008** – The main electric service line to the campground was replaced; DCR began steps toward a new contact station and campground entrance reconfiguration

**Summer 2008** – In consultation with expert campground design firms, DCR will create a plan for campground reconfiguration. Once finished, a visual representation will be available to the public. DCR hopes to accommodate some hookup camping within the new campground design.

**October 2008** – The last night for reservation camping at Horseneck Beach in 2008 is October 12<sup>th</sup>. Shortly after October 12, 2008, DCR will begin to remove the existing waterfront sites.



**2009 Camping Season -** At this point in funding and planning, it is unclear what the campground's configuration will be in 2009. Please check back with us throughout 2008 for further construction updates. Information will be posted at the contact station, and the comfort station at the Horseneck Beach campground. Construction updates will also be available on <http://www.mass.gov/dcr>.

Questions regarding the capital improvement projects detailed above may be directed to Horseneck staff. Additionally, questions may also be emailed to [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).

Thank you for your interest in Horseneck Beach. We appreciate your patience during this renovation period, and are confident that you will find this beautiful facility even more enjoyable after the renovation is complete. We look forward to serving you in 2008 and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Sullivan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.  
Commissioner